

WHERE IS CERTI-BOND? RIGHT IN THE HEART OF THE LOW RENT DISTRICT . . .

Kanine Korner

By Francis X. Lohmann

James Thurber once wrote: "If a man has benefited immeasurably by his association with the dog, what, you may ask, has the dog gotten out of it? The dog, of course, has been heavily charged with punishments."

"The dog has known the muzzle, the leash, and the tether; he has suffered the indignation of the show bench, the tin can on the tail, the ribbon in the hair; his love life with the other sex of his species has been regulated by the frigid hand of human authority, his digestion ruined by the macaroons and marshmallows of dotting women. The list of his woes could be continued indefinitely. But the dog has also had his fun, for he has been privileged to live with and study at close range the only creature with reason, the most unreasonable of all creatures . . . the man." How about that?

SPRING is the ideal pup-buying time. The winter-bought pup can't be let out of the house until the days warm up. This prolongs house training and, let's face it, housebreaking is one of the biggest problems for the new dog owner. The spring-bought pup, on the other paw, can be let out of the house immediately, thereby speeding up the training program.

Another asset to purchasing a puppy in the spring is the fact it gives you an excellent excuse to hit the road after long winter confinement, and take a long drive in the country to look over puppy prospects.

Embark on your happy search armed with a list of kennels specializing in the particular breed you are interested in. The American Kennel Club, 51 Madison Ave., NYC, will be delighted to supply a list of bonafide kennels in your area.

A PROSPECTIVE puppy-buyer can usually tell a good deal about the individual kennel's dogs by the condition of the kennel itself. Now, I don't mean to infer it must look elaborate or expensive. If everything looks spotless and shipshape and

there's no offensive odor about the place, the chances are excellent that the dogs and puppies are in good health.

And remember this too, the state of the kennels generally reflects the state of business, and if business is good, it means satisfied customers who continually recommend the kennel to friends. There's always the exception to the rule, of course. It's possible you could arrive on the day the kennel owner's entire family is on the sick list.

BREED OF THE WEEK — Bernese Mountain Dog . . . most people, due to the St. Bernard's far flung fame, believe this is the only breed of dog native to Switzerland. As a matter of fact, the Swiss originated several breeds and the Bernese Mountain Dog is the most popular of the group in his country.

His name comes from the territorial division known as the Canton of Berne. His ancestry dates back to the Roman Empire. The Romans brought these huge dogs with them at the time they invaded Switzerland more than 2,000 years ago.

LIKE MOST of the neighboring European nations, the Swiss people do not believe in allowing their dogs to loaf. The Bernese breed earns his keep by doing draft jobs. However, outside his native country, the Bernese Mountain Dog is virtually unknown. From 1900 to 1925, a few were imported to Hungary and Germany and in 1936, the first specimens arrived in England. They are still almost unknown in America.

Perhaps the Bernese could find favor with the rural flocks who mourn the passing of the old-fashioned farm-type Collie, the huge broad-headed good natured dog from days long gone by. The Bernese boasts a pair of ideal attributes — a faithful disposition and rugged constitution. The Bernese tips the scales at about 65 pounds and in height 25 inches. For further information on the Bernese Mountain Dog, write to Fred and Carol Pyle, Mt. Chalet Kennels, 3350 West-a-ch Way, Sonoma, Calif. 95476.



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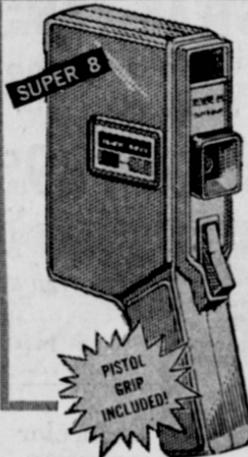
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